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LB 536A

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Oh, okay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's all that I will ask you. It's not often that a member stands on this floor and offers to save the taxpayers \$2,999,999. If you have an industry that we're being told is turning a profit, that is going to bring so much benefit to the state, why do the taxpayers have to put money in the pockets of speculators? Why not let the business stand on its own feet? I'd like to ask Senator Cunningham a question. He might not be able to answer it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Cunningham, would you respond?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Cunningham, has your family ever farmed?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes, they have, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Are any of the members of your family farming now?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes, they are.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Are they situated as other farm families are where they're experiencing some financial difficulty because of how federal farm programs operate, the general economy, and so forth?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: I'm sure they are.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think they would be appreciative if the state would give them, say, \$5,000 a year to assist them? Even though it wouldn't be enough to do everything that needs to be done, would they appreciate that token of consideration?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Most of the time, my family members say they don't like the government programs but they want to be able to make it on their own, and I think that's what ethanol plants